

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A sole for an article of footwear, the sole comprising:
a first area including a first deformation element comprising a shell defining a cavity at least partially filled with a foamed material; and
a second area including a second deformation element comprising an open-walled structure free from foamed materials, wherein the second deformation element further comprises at least two side walls and at least one tension element interconnecting center regions of the side walls.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The sole of claim 1, wherein the side walls and the tension element comprise a single piece.
4. (Original) The sole of claim 3, wherein the single piece comprises a thermoplastic material.
5. (Original) The sole of claim 4, wherein the thermoplastic material comprises a thermoplastic polyurethane.
6. (Original) The sole of claim 4, wherein the thermoplastic material has a hardness between about 70 Shore A and about 85 Shore A.
7. (Original) The sole of claim 4, wherein the thermoplastic material has a hardness between about 75 Shore A and about 80 Shore A.
8. (Previously Presented) The sole of claim 1, wherein at least one of the tension element and the side walls comprises a thickness from about 1.5 mm to about 5 mm.

9. (Previously Presented) The sole of claim 1, wherein a thickness of at least one of the tension element and the side walls increases along a length of the second deformation element.
10. (Previously Presented) The sole of claim 1, wherein the side walls are further interconnected by at least one of an upper side and a lower side.
11. (Previously Presented) The sole of claim 1 further comprising two second deformation elements arranged adjacent each other.
12. (Original) The sole of claim 11, wherein at least one of an upper side and a lower side interconnects adjacent side walls of the two second deformation elements.
13. (Original) The sole of claim 12, wherein the two second deformation elements are further interconnected by at least one of an upper connecting surface and a lower connecting surface.
14. (Original) The sole of claim 13, wherein the connecting surface comprises a three-dimensional shape for adaptation to additional sole components.
15. (Cancelled)
16. (Previously Presented) The sole of claim 1, wherein at least one of the side walls has a non-linear configuration.
17. (Original) The sole of claim 1, wherein the first area is arranged in an aft portion of a heel region of the sole.
18. (Original) The sole of claim 1, wherein the second area is arranged in a front portion of a heel region of the sole.
19. (Original) The sole of claim 1, wherein the first area is arranged to correspond to metatarsal heads of a wearer's foot.
20. (Original) The sole of claim 19, wherein the second area is arranged fore of the metatarsal heads of the wearer's foot.
21. (Original) The sole of claim 19, wherein the second area is arranged aft of the metatarsal heads of the wearer's foot.

22. (Withdrawn) The sole of claim 1, wherein the first deformation element comprises at least one horizontally extending indentation.

23. (Original) The sole of claim 1, wherein the first deformation element and the second deformation element are arranged below at least a portion of at least one load distribution plate of the sole.

24. (Withdrawn) The sole of claim 23, wherein the load distribution plate at least partially three-dimensionally encompasses at least one of the first deformation element and the second deformation element.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) The sole of claim[[25]]1, wherein the shell comprises a thermoplastic material and the foamed material comprises a polyurethane foam.

27. (Original) The sole of claim 26, wherein the thermoplastic material comprises a thermoplastic urethane.

28. (Currently Amended) The sole of claim[[25]]1, wherein the shell comprises a varying wall thickness.

29. (Currently Amended) The sole of claim[[25]]1, wherein the first deformation element is arranged at least partially in a rearmost portion of the sole and the cavity comprises a lateral chamber and a medial chamber.

30. (Original) The sole of claim 29, wherein the lateral chamber is larger than the medial chamber.

31. (Original) The sole of claim 29, wherein the lateral chamber and the medial chamber are interconnected by a bridging passage.

32. (Original) The sole of claim 31, wherein the bridging passage is filled with the foamed material.

33. (Original) The sole of claim 29, wherein the shell defines a recess open to an outside, the recess arranged between the lateral chamber and the medial chamber.

34. (Currently Amended) An article of footwear comprising an upper and a sole, the sole comprising:

a first area including a first deformation element comprising a shell defining a cavity at least partially filled with a foamed material; and

a second area including a second deformation element comprising an open-walled structure free from foamed materials, wherein the second deformation element further comprises at least two side walls and at least one tension element interconnecting center regions of the side walls.

35. (Currently Amended) A sole for an article of footwear, the sole comprising:

an outsole;

a load distribution plate;

a first area including a first deformation element comprising a shell defining a cavity at least partially filled with a foamed material; and

a second area including a second deformation element comprising an open-walled structure free from foamed materials, wherein the first and second deformation elements are arranged between the outsole and the load distribution plate.

36. (Withdrawn) The sole of claim 35, wherein the load distribution plate defines an opening in a heel region thereof.

37. (Withdrawn) The sole of claim 35, wherein the load distribution plate comprises a U-shaped plate.

38. (Previously Presented) A sole for an article of footwear, the sole comprising:

a first area including a first deformation element comprising a foamed material; and

a second area including a second deformation element comprising an open-walled structure free from foamed materials, wherein the first deformation element comprises a shell defining a cavity at least partially filled with the foamed material and arranged at least partially in a rearmost portion of the sole, wherein the cavity comprises a lateral chamber and a medial chamber.